

NDPERS GROUP INSURANCE ACCOUNT

INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

The NDPERS Group Insurance Account was established to hold insurance premiums collected from employers until paid to the insurance carrier.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES AND DISCRETION OF THE STATE INVESTMENT BOARD (SIB)

The assets are to be invested in a manner consistent with the prudent investor rule as provided in NDCC 21-10-07.

At the discretion of the SIB, the Fund's assets may be pooled with other funds. In pooling funds, the SIB may establish whatever asset class pools it deems necessary with specific quality, diversification, restrictions, and performance objectives appropriate to the prudent investor rule and objectives of the funds participating in the pools.

The SIB may delegate investment responsibility to professional money managers. Where a money manager has been retained, the SIB's role in determining investment strategy and security selection is supervisory, not advisory.

The SIB is responsible for establishing criteria and procedures and making decisions with respect to hiring, maintaining, and terminating money managers. This responsibility includes selecting performance measurement services, consultants and report formats and determining the frequency of meetings with managers.

3. INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

Premiums are collected throughout the month at PERS and will be forwarded to the Group Insurance investment account on the 1st and 15th of each month. The premiums transferred into the investment account will be transferred back to PERS on approximately the 22nd of each month so they may be remitted to the insurance carrier.

4. **STANDARDS OF INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE**

The Fund’s investment objectives and liquidity constraints give rise to an asset allocation that is considered the most likely to achieve the results desired. For evaluation purposes, the following performance targets will apply:

- a. The Fund should produce a rate of return that meets or exceeds the portfolio policy index defined as the 90-day Treasury bill.
- b. The annual standard deviation of total returns for the Fund should not exceed that of the policy portfolio.

5. **POLICY AND GUIDELINES**

The asset allocation is established by NDPERS. Asset allocation is based upon the appraisal of projected liquidity. In recognition of this factor, the following allocation is deemed appropriate for the fund:

| <u>Asset Class</u> | <u>Target Allocation</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Cash Equivalents | 100% |

This cash will be held in an enhanced money market account at the Bank of North Dakota.

While the SIB is responsible for establishing specific quality, diversification, restrictions, and performance objectives for the investment vehicles in which the Fund’s assets will be invested, it is understood that:

- a. No derivative instruments or strategies which make use of derivatives which would cause the portfolio to be in any way leveraged will be used.
- b. Derivative use will be monitored to ensure that undue risks are not taken by the money managers.
- c. All assets will be held in custody by the State Investment Board’s master custodian or such other custodians as are acceptable to the State Investment Board.
- d. No funds shall be borrowed.
- e. No short sales or margin purchases shall be made.

6. EVALUATION AND REVIEW

Investment management of the Fund will be evaluated against the Fund's investment objectives and investment performance standards. Evaluation will be conducted quarterly by the SIB through its review of funds participating in the Insurance Trust.

Money managers will be evaluated by the SIB quarterly. In-state meetings will be held with the money managers at least annually.

Approved by:


NDPERS



Sparb Collins
Executive Director

Date:

STATE INVESTMENT BOARD



Steve Cochrane
Executive Director/CIO

Date: